

2. The adjutant general shall, at each place where an arsenal is established, appoint some suitable person as keeper of the public arms, who shall be allowed a reasonable compensation for his services, not exceeding sixty dollars per annum ; and the governor is hereby authorized and required, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to make such provisions as he may think necessary, for guarding and protecting the said arsenals ; and for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred under these two sections, the governor shall be and he is hereby authorized to draw, from time to time, on the public treasurer, for such sums as he may deem necessary.

Keeper of the public arms to be appointed.

Governor to have the arsenals protected.

3. The governor may, from time to time, direct such portions of the said arms as may be necessary for arming any volunteer company, organized and equipped according to law, to be delivered to the commanding officer of such company, taking his receipt for the same, but no commanding officer of a volunteer company shall be allowed to draw arms from the arsenals, before he shall have given bond, with two good securities, if required, in double the appraised value of the arms, conditioned for the safe keeping, cleaning and returning of the arms.

Governor may distribute the public arms to volunteer companies, upon the commanding officer giving bond.

4. In case the public authority of any town, or the senior colonel of any county, shall petition the governor for any number, not exceeding sixtyfive stand, of the public arms, he is hereby authorized to furnish them with that number : *Provided*, bond be given, with approved security, if required, for the safe keeping, preservation and return of the same : *And provided*, that no one county shall receive a greater number than sixtyfive, unless in case of insurrection or invasion.

The police authorities of a town, or the senior colonel of a county, may petition for, and receive arms, upon giving bond.

5. In case of insurrection or invasion, or a probability thereof, the governor is authorized to distribute the public arms of the State, and to send them to such places as he may deem necessary and expedient, and to draw warrants, on the treasurer of the State, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

How the public arms may be distributed in cases of invasion or insurrection.

6. When any of the public arms shall be delivered to any colonel commandant, for distribution in his county, it shall be the duty of the said colonel commandant to take receipts of the captains in whose hands they may be, or are placed, and to give the necessary orders for keeping said arms safe and in good order ; and the captains, when they distribute the arms to their respective companies, shall take a receipt at full length, in the muster book of their companies, from each man, in double the value thereof, under seal, conditioned for the safe keeping, and returning of the arms when called for by the colonel commandant ; which said muster book, containing the receipts for the arms, shall be taken good care of, and be subject to the inspection of the colonel whenever he may desire it, and on the death, resignation or removal of the captain, the receipt book shall be handed over to the officer who may be appointed to the command of said company.

Duty of the militia officers on receiving the public arms.

2. 1822, c. 1168.—1828, c. 31.—1830, c. 21, s. 5.

3. 1819, c. 1027.—1822, c. 1168.

4. 1830, c. 21, s. 2.

5. 1830, c. 21, s. 3.

6. 1831, c. 45, s. 3.